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June 13, 2002

BY HAND AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Re: D.T.E. 02-8, Collocation Security

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

Allegiance Telecom of Massachusetts, Inc. ("Allegiance") submits this letter in response to the Hearing Officer's invitation to file comments on Verizon Massachusetts' ("Verizon") June 12, 2002, Motion for Extension of Time to file its rebuttal testimony. As we informed Verizon before its motion was filed, Allegiance does not object to the granting of the motion, provided that other parties are granted a corresponding two-day extension in the deadline for filing requests for leave to submit additional testimony in response to Verizon's rebuttal.¹ The current schedule calls for such requests to be made by the close of business on Friday, June 21, a full week after Verizon submits its rebuttal testimony.

Should Verizon's motion be granted without a corresponding extension of the June 21st deadline, other parties will have only three days to evaluate Verizon's testimony, which may be extensive, and assess the need for further testimony in response. The two-business day extension requested by Verizon actually results in a four-calendar day delay, cutting the CLEC time to respond in half. This is simply not enough time given the importance and complexity of the

¹ The cover letter accompanying Verizon's motion failed to disclose the contingent nature of Allegiance's assent to the motion, stating only that a number of parties, including Allegiance, "have indicated that they would not object to Verizon's request."

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issues before the Department in this proceeding. The Department will be better served by CLEC requests -- if any are made -- that come only after careful analysis and consideration of Verizon's rebuttal testimony rather than by requests made in haste to meet a deadline shortened unnecessarily by an accommodation of one party.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

Robert D. Shapiro
Christopher H. Kallaher

cc: Service List